



1772

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/037,942 Confirmation No. 7761
Applicant (s) : Alain M. Sagnard et al
Filed : January 3, 2002
TC/A.U. : 1772
Examiner : Jane J. Rhee
Title : BUILDING PANEL HAVING AT LEAST TWO PANEL DOMAINS
OF DIFFERENT AVERAGE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH
Docket No. : 61301A
Customer No. : 00109

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INTERVIEW SUMMARY

This Interview Summary is responsive to a request in the Summary Record (Paper No. 7) mailed 16 October 2003. In addition to this Summary, a formal response to the pending final rejection was submitted on 10 October 2003, which contains most of the following information. Applicant respectfully submits the following interview summary to ensure completeness.

Exhibits Shown

None.

Claims Discussed

Claim 1, from which all other claims depend.

Specific Prior Art Discussed

US 5,916,672 (Reeves, et al.)

Propose Amendments

None.

General Thrust of Principal Arguments to Examiner

As a result of the interview, Applicant came to realize that the Examiner understands "extending through the thickness of the panel" to include "extending *partially* through the thickness of the panel."

Applicant asserted that "extending through the thickness of the panel" does not mean anything less than extending from one primary face through to an opposing face. Applicant referred to Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th Edition, page 1230, which provides multiple definitions for "through." (A copy of this page from Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary was included with the Response mailed on 10 October 2003 and is included herewith.) It is unclear how any of these definitions can mean anything but extending from one surface to another or one boundary to another.

Applicant also pointed to a portion of the specification where extending through the thickness of the panel draws support (page 5, lines 33-34). This section states that a band desirably "extends the thickness of the panel." The term "panel thickness" is defined on page 4, lines 33-34 of the present Application as "a perpendicular distance between a primary face and its opposing face."

Applicant argued that this evidence indicates the meaning of "extending through the thickness of the panel" means extending from one primary face to an opposing face and nothing less.

The Examiner disagreed, stating that at dictionary she has provides a definition for "through" that means less than from one side to another.

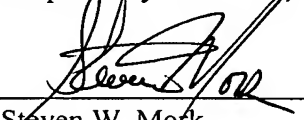
Other Pertinent Matters Discussed

None.

General Results or Outcomes

Agreement was not reached.

Respectfully submitted,



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